



SENIOR PREP NEWS

Important news, dates, and tips regarding college & YOUR future

SENIOR "TO DO" LIST...

Don't lose steam now! The next few months will go quickly and there are still many forms to complete!

READ THIS SECTION VERY CAREFULLY!

☒ **Complete FAFSA form NOW!** - ALL FAFSA forms should be completed NO LATER than March 1st !!! Remember, financial aid is distributed on a first come, first served basis - you don't want to miss out! If you need help - PLEASE SEE your college advisor ASAP!

WARNING: You should only file your FAFSA using the official FREE website www.fafsa.gov There are lots of scams out there...don't be fooled. Use the official website.

Printable FAFSA worksheets are available at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/fafsaws90c.pdf> or in Spanish at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/sfafsaws90c.pdf>



January 2010
Volume 5

1) Complete **FAFSA** form **BEFORE** March 1st. Download a worksheet TODAY and get started. Worksheets available at www.fafsa.gov

***It is HIGHLY recommended that you complete the FAFSA online.** Your form will be processed **MUCH MORE QUICKLY** if you do it online.

2) If you are applying to private colleges, you might be required to complete the **CSS Profile**. For a complete list of participating colleges www.collegeboard.com and click on CSS Profile under the student section

3) **SCHOLARSHIPS!** Apply for as many as you can! There is tons of FREE MONEY out there, you just have to do a little work to get it!

☒ **MID TERM GRADES** - With only a few days of the semester to go, now is the time to buckle down and get ALL those missing assignments in and study, study, study! REMEMBER: Colleges and Universities are waiting to see your mid - term grades before they make admission decisions...Don't stop now!

MID TERM GRADES (January 2010) must be mailed to all SUNY & Private colleges to which you applied :

1. After you receive your report card in February, you must make sure each of the colleges to which you applied receives a copy.
2. Check with your college advisor for your high school procedures to submit your grades. If there is not a procedure in place, make sure ALL of the SUNY & Private schools to which you applied receive a copy of your mid term grades. Some private colleges have their own forms that must be completed as well.
3. Any additional information or updates you would like the college to know about should be sent at this time. This includes updated SAT scores, SAT II scores, letters of recommendation, or any awards or honors you have received since submitting your application.

*** MANY COLLEGES WILL MAKE ADMISSION DECISIONS BASED ON YOUR MID-TERM GRADES...THEY MUST RECEIVE THESE ASAP!!!**

This publication is made possible through a federal grant awarded by the NYS Higher Education Services Corporation to CUNY's College Access and Success Program, the administrative agency for New York State's College Access Challenge Grant Program.

www.hesc.org

Federal Student Aid: How To Apply

Step 1

Get a PIN, a personal identification number. A PIN lets you apply, "sign" your online FAFSA, make corrections, and more- all online! You must apply for a PIN for YOU and one for your Parent/Guardian
Go to www.pin.ed.gov

Step 2

Collect the documents needed to apply: income tax returns, W2 forms (and other records of income or benefits). *If you have not completed tax returns at the time of application, simply **ESTIMATE** the information and update the changes later.

Step 3

Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon after January 1st as you can. Many colleges have deadlines, so be aware. Go to www.fafsa.gov

Step 4

Are you applying to a college or university in New York State? Remember, at the end of the FAFSA application there will be a **RED prompt** button to complete the TAP form- make sure you do this **IMMEDIATELY!!!** If you do not complete the TAP form at this prompt, you will have to wait for the paper form to be sent to you by mail.

Step 5

Review your SAR (Student Aid Report)-the result of your FAFSA application. If necessary, make corrections and resubmit your SAR for reprocessing. *You will receive your SAR by mail or you can access it directly from the www.fafsa.ed.gov

Step 6

If you are selected for verification, your college's financial aid office will ask you to submit tax returns and other financial documents. Be sure to meet the college's deadline, or you will not be eligible to receive federal student aid.

Step 7

In April you will begin to receive financial aid packages from various colleges to which you have been accepted. Review the award letters to compare amounts and types of aid being offered.
*Contact the college financial aid office if you have any questions about the award being offered.

\$ Scholarship REMINDERS \$

SCHOLARSHIP
BOOKS
AVAILABLE IN
YOUR COLLEGE
OFFICE & LOCAL
LIBRARY!

It takes time...
but there are a
number of books
available for your
use!

Remember to
check out
www.fastweb.com

**ALL YOU HAVE
TO DO IS
APPLY!**



J.P. Morgan Chase Smart Start Scholarship Program - Full tuition for 4 years plus \$500/year for books for students applying to any of the following: Baruch, Brooklyn College, Columbia, Barnard, City College, Fordham, LIU-Brooklyn, NYU, Pace, Polytechnic Univ., Queens College, St. Francis, St. John's and St. Joseph's. Includes a paid internship during the summer and school year at JP Morgan Chase. Must have an 90% or above average. For additional information and an application, go to www.jporganchase.com/smartstart or see your college advisor for a brochure. Application deadline January 25, 2010.

Ron Brown Scholar Program- 10 students receive \$40,000 scholarships. Criteria: African American students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential, community service, and financial need. Applications available at <http://www.ronbrown.org/home.aspx> . Application deadline Jan. 9, 2010.

Gates Millennium Scholars Program- Significant scholarships awarded through generous donations by Bill & Melinda Gates. To be eligible, students must: have an average of 90% or higher, be citizens or legal permanent residents of the U.S., be African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander or Hispanic American, meet the federal Pell Grant guidelines (low-income). Essay and recommendation letter required. For an application, see your College Advisor or go to www.gmsp.org (Deadline January 11, 2010)!

Stony World-Herbert Fund- grants awarded to students with pulmonary (respiratory) problems who live or attend college in the New York City area and who can demonstrate financial need. Individual grants, averaging \$250 per month, are awarded for a maximum of four years. For more info or to apply, go to <http://www.stonywoldherbertfund.com> and click on Direct Service Grants.

Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF)- full & partial scholarships awarded to students of Hispanic heritage. Eligibility requirements: be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and must apply for federal financial aid using the FAFSA form. Various scholarships available at <http://www.hsf.net/Scholarships.aspx?id=426> (Deadline dates vary depending on scholarship).

Carolina Rice Scholarship- \$2,000 scholarships awarded to high school seniors who are attending a New York or New Jersey high school; Social Security Number required. Students must submit a 250 word essay on "What will my college degree say about me?" All entries must be received before February 16, 2010. For an application go to www.carolinarice.com/scholarship .

Random House Creative Writing Scholarship- earn up to \$10,000 for your creative writing works!!! This competition is only available to NYC high school seniors! Download and application at <http://www.randomhouse.com/creativewriting> . Application deadline February 12th, 2010 for poetry/ spoken word/ fiction/ drama and personal essays/memoirs and March 15, 2010, for graphic novels.

Eagle Foundation Scholarship- \$10,000 scholarships awarded for four years to recipients. Students must have a high school average of at least 85%, have a combined score of at least 1800 on the Math, Critical Reading & Writing sections of the SAT, and have been recognized for the leadership positions they have held at their high school and in their community. Students must require financial assistance in order to attend college. Applications are available online at <http://www.theeaglefoundation.com/application.php> . Application deadline April 1, 2010.

The Spirit of Anne Frank Awards- \$10,000 scholarship awarded to young people who have demonstrated personal courage by taking action against racism, prejudice and bias-related violence in their community. Students must submit a 250 word essay, a nomination form and 2 letters of recommendation. Applications can be downloaded <http://www.annefrank.com/fileadmin/safa/index.html> Application deadline January 15, 2010.

Roothbert Fund Scholarship- \$3,000 scholarships awarded to students in need of financial aid to further their education. Scholarships are open to all in the United States regardless of sex, age, color, nationality or religious background. While the Fund does not emphasize any particular form of religious practice or worship, it seeks to provide support to persons motivated by spiritual values. The Fund has awarded grants to persons entering a wide range of careers. However, preference will be given to those who can satisfy high scholastic requirements and are considering careers in education. For more information and to download the application, go to <http://www.roothbertfund.org/scholarships.php#fund> Application deadline February 1, 2010.

Milton Fisher Scholarship- \$5,000 scholarship per academic year for up to 4 years awarded to high school students who display evidence of innovative and creative problem solving. Applications available at www.rbffoundation.org and are due before April 12, 2010.

SAE Engineering Scholarship Program – \$400 to full tuition scholarships available to students planning to earn a degree in engineering or a related science. Students must enroll in an ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) accredited college or university program. For additional info go to <http://students.sae.org/awdscholar/scholarships/hsengineering.htm> . Application Deadline January 15, 2009.

Burger King Scholars- \$1,000 scholarships awarded to high school seniors who have a minimum grade point average of 2.5, who work a minimum of 10 hours per week or 40 weeks per year, who are actively involved in community service activities, who demonstrate financial need and who plan to enroll in an accredited college, university, or vocational school. Applications available online at www.haveyourwayfoundation.org/bksp_application.html and Access Key: BKS. Application deadline February 1, 2010.

Washington Crossing Foundation Scholarship- \$1,000-\$7,500 scholarships awarded to high school seniors who are interested in History, Politics or Government service. For more information, go to www.gwcf.org . Application deadline January 15, 2010.

Wal-Mart 2009 Sam Walton Community Scholarship- \$1,000 scholarships awarded to graduating seniors. All interested students should go to <http://www.act.org/walmart/community> No paper applications accepted. ***Applicants must have a minimum 2.5 GPA to apply.*** Application deadline January 29, 2010.

Kaye Scholars Program- FULL Scholarship to students planning to attend City College- must be majoring in the Humanities and Arts (American Studies, Art, Asian Studies, Literature, English, Foreign Language, History, Jewish Studies, Media, Communication Arts, Music, Philosophy or Theater). Essay, two letters of recommendation, financial aid forms required. In addition to the regular application to City College, students must submit the general scholarship application, which is available at <http://www.ccnycunyu.edu/kaye/index.htm> . Once your scholarship application is submitted, you must notify by email the Kaye Scholars Office at kayescholars@ccny.cuny.edu, so that your application can be tracked. Application deadline April 3, 2010.

New York Water Environment Association- \$10,000 and \$1,500 scholarships awarded to students who demonstrate a commitment to pursue an education in the environmental field of study. Letters of recommendation, transcript and essays are required. Applications can be downloaded at <http://www.nywea.org/schol/> Deadline January 21, 2010.

Skidmore College Porter Presidential Scholarships in Mathematics and Science- \$40,000 scholarships awarded to students planning to attend Skidmore College and who excel in the sciences and/or mathematics. Scholarships are awarded without regard to financial need. For more information go to <http://cms.skidmore.edu/science/scholarships/porter.cfm> or call 1-518-580-5122 or inquire by e-mail t Professor of Physics, William Standish at wstandish@skidmore.edu. Applicants will have to answer a supplementary question on the Common Application Supplement with regards to science/math. Deadline January 15, 2010.

Manhattanville College- Invest in Success Scholarship Program - for students of Hispanic and African descent. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Applications available at <http://www1.manhattanville.edu/DUCHESNE/invest.htm> . For more information, call 914-323-5447, or go to the website for more information. . Deadline Friday, January 30, 2010.

Los Padres Foundation Scholarships- this foundation is dedicated to helping economically disadvantaged New York and New Jersey metropolitan area Puerto Rican/Hispanic youth realize their full human potential through education and community service. Students must be the first generation in their family to attend college, must meet federal guidelines for low income eligibility, must be a US citizen or legal resident and must have a minimum GPA o f 3.0. Applications available online at <http://www.lospadresfoundation.org/LPF%20Applications%20Home%20Page.html> Deadline January 10, 2010.

DECA Scholarships- Over \$200,000 in scholarships from DECA's corporate partners. Over 14 individual scholarships available for DECA students (these are students studying marketing, management and entrepreneurship in business, finance and hospitality). Application booklets available at www.deca.org/schol.html Deadline February 10, 2010.

UFT- Albert Shanker College Scholarship- \$5,000 scholarship awarded to High School Seniors from low-income families. Students MUST meet the financial income guidelines specified; 80% or higher overall average, essay and recommendation letters as well as proof of family's income must all be included with application. Applications available online through the UFT website at <http://www.uft.org/member/education/shanker> . Application deadline January 31, 2010.

Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship- \$7,500 scholarship awarded to minority students showing leadership potential and demonstrating financial need to attend an accredited 4-year college or university of their choice. Students must have a minimum combined SAT score of 1000 on the math and critical reading sections. Applications available online at http://www.jackierobinson.org/apply/app_gen.php . Application deadline March 15, 2010.

NEW \$cholarships

•**Gordon A. Rich Memorial Foundation (GAR) Scholarship**- \$10,000 scholarship awarded for four years. Students must be a dependent child of a full-time employee of a financial services organization (this includes banks, investment banks, insurance companies, credit card companies, etc.) Must have at least an 83% overall average, plan to enroll in a full-time four year college, and demonstrate financial need. Applications available at www.gordonrich.org/html/index.html . Deadline February 16, 2010.

•**SAMMY 2010 "Scholar Athlete Milk Mustache of the Year"**- \$7,500 scholarship awarded to 25 students. Applicants will be judged on the following criteria: academic performance (35%), athletic excellence (35%), leadership (15%), community service (10%) and milk experience (5%). Applications will only be accepted online at www.bodybymilk.com Deadline March 5, 2010.

•**Zonta Club of New York Young Women in Public Affairs Award-** \$500 scholarship awarded to outstanding young women interested in public affairs/community service. Applications available from your college counselor or they can be downloaded at:
http://www.zonta.org/site/PageServer?pagename=zi_issues_programs_ywpa_application Deadline March 1, 2010.

•**Columbia College Presidential Scholarship Program-** \$8,000 scholarships awarded to outstanding students interested in attending the Columbia College of Chicago. Students must submit an admissions application in addition to the Presidential Scholars application. For more information go to www.colum.edu/scholarships Deadline February 1, 2010.

•**Financial Service Center of New York Rewarding Young Leaders in Our Community Program-** \$5,000 scholarships awarded to students who will return to their communities and contribute to improving the quality of life for all New Yorkers. Students will be selected based upon leadership skills at school and in the community (contributing at least 150 valuable hours of volunteer service in each year of high school) and academic achievement. Applications available at <http://www.fscny.org/scholar.htm> and you must include a 250 word essay explaining your most rewarding experience through your community service involvement. Deadline March 26, 2010.

•**St. John's University Scholarships-** Various scholarships available to students who have applied to St. John's University for admission. Applications can be downloaded at <http://www.stjohns.edu/admission/undergraduate/scholarships> :

Catholic Students Scholarship (\$2,500 annually) awarded to who demonstrate financial need and the strength of an accompanying essay describing how their Catholic Faith and, specifically the teachings of St. Vincent de Paul, have influenced their life. Deadline February 1, 2010.

Ozanam Scholars Program (\$10,000) awarded to students with a strong academic record who have demonstrated a history of meaningful service. Students are selected to be part of a unique learning community to pursue real-world solutions to intractable problems of poverty and social justice. Students must have an 85% average. Applications available at <http://irsurveys.stjohns.edu/5/Ozanam200910/Ozanam0910.asp?P1=3m2n-8pnr-y82> Deadline February 1, 2010.

•**Florida A & M University African American Women Scholarship-** \$4,000-\$10,000 scholarships awarded to African American Women entering college in the fall of 2009 majoring in the field of computer technology. For more information, go to <http://www.famu.edu/?a=headlines&p=display&news=602> or contact Dr. Black via email at jblack@cis.famu.edu Deadline August 1, 2010.

•**Robert C.Byrd Scholarship-** \$1,500 per year scholarships awarded to high school seniors who can demonstrate academic achievement. Scholarships awarded based on combined SAT scores and overall GPA. For more information, or to obtain an application, go to <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/kiap/scholarships/documents/2010RobtByrdBulletin.pdf> . Application deadline March 1, 2010.

•**Friends of Senator Jack Perry Migrant Scholarship-** scholarship to honor migrant farm- worker students from New York State. Students must be currently enrolled in a New York State high school and present financial need. For additional information and an application, go to <http://www.migrant.net/migrant/sch-perry.htm> or contact the Geneseo Migrant Center at 1-800-245-5681.

•**Roothbert Scholarship Fund-** \$3,000 scholarship awarded to students motivated by spiritual values and who work to foster fellowship among them. Students must complete a detailed application and invited to, participate in an interview and weekend retreat for scholarship recipients. For more information, go to <http://www.roothbertfund.org/scholarships.php#fund> . Applications are due no later than February 1, 2010.

SCHOLARSHIP TIPS:

- 1. Apply only if you are eligible.** Read all the scholarship requirements and directions carefully to make sure you're eligible before you send in your application.
- 2. Complete the application in full.** If a question doesn't apply, note that on the application. Don't just leave a blank. Supply all additional supporting material, such as transcripts, letters of recommendation and essays.
- 3. Follow directions.** Provide everything that's required, but don't supply things that aren't requested, you could be disqualified.
- 4. Neatness counts.** Always type your application, or if you must print, do so neatly and legibly. Make a couple of photo copies of all the forms before you fill them out. Use the copies as working drafts as you develop your application packet.
- 5. Write an essay that makes a strong impression.** The key to writing a strong essay is to be personal and specific. Include concrete details to make your experience come alive: the who, what, where, and when of your topic. The simplest experience can be monumental if you present honestly how you were affected.
- 6. Watch all deadlines.** To help keep yourself on track, Impose your own deadline that is at least two weeks prior to the official deadline.
- 7. Make sure your application gets where it needs to go.** Put your name (and Social Security number, if applicable) on all pages of the application. Pieces of your application may get lost unless they are clearly identified.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS! Scholarships regardless of your immigration status in the United States!

We have a wonderful resource for YOU. Check out:

www.maldef.org

- ***NO Social Security Number Required**
- ***NO Legal Residency Required**
- ***NO U. S. Citizenship Required**



ARE YOU APPLYING FOR THE GATES MILLENIUM SCHOLARSHIP?

If so, REMEMBER: Applications are due **NO LATER than January 25th**
this is a very extensive application-so get started NOW!



What is GMS Program? Significant Scholarships. To be eligible, students must: have an average of 90% or higher, be citizens or legal permanent residents of the U.S., be African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander or Hispanic American, meet the federal Pell Grant guidelines (low-income). Essays and Recommendation letter required. For an application,

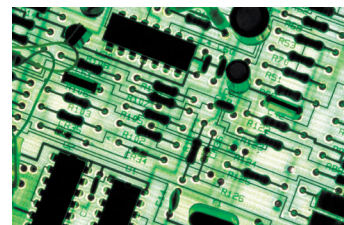
see your College Advisor or go to **www.gmsp.org**

Queensborough Community College

National Science Foundation **\$cholarships** for students interested in Electronic Engineering Technology or Laser and Fiber Optics Engineering Technology

Students will be given \$6000 per year (for two years) in addition to any other awards or financial aid they receive. Students will receive individualized personal advisement, tutoring opportunities, career counseling, internships, trips to local companies, social activities, and the list goes on.

Interested students should contact Dr. Stuart Asser at 718-631-6207 for more information and to obtain an application.



THE RANDOM HOUSE *Creative Writing* *Competition* For NYC Public High School Seniors



**Enter your original graphic novel for
a chance to win a \$10,000 , \$5,000
or a \$2,500 SCHOLARSHIP!**

For more information call
1-888-369-3434
or go to

www.worldofexpression.org

Deadline March 15, 2010

COLLEGE BOUND STUDENT ATHELETES...

YOU MUST SUBMIT
**A NCAA Initial
Eligibility
Clearinghouse
Application**

If you are planning to participate in sports in college you are **REQUIRED** to submit this form!

Fee Waivers are available from your College Advisor if you qualify

REGISTER TODAY!!!

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net





Ronald McDonald House Charities 2010 Scholarships

For more information and to download an application go to:

<http://www.nywea.org/schol>

The RMHC National Scholarship Program is comprised of 4 individual scholarship programs including:

- RMHC/ASIA
- RMHC/African American Future Achievers
- RMHC/HACER
- RMHC Scholars

Eligibility

To apply for the RMHC National Scholarships, students must...

- be a high school senior;
- be eligible to attend a two or four-year college or university
- be a legal U.S. resident
- reside in a participating local Ronald McDonald Chapter's geographic area;
- submit a complete application and all required documentation by the deadline.

Additional Eligibility Requirements

For each individual scholarship program the following are also required:

- RMHC/ASIA** -applicant must have at least one parent of Asian/Pacific-Islander heritage;
- RMHC/African American Future Achievers** - applicant must have at least one parent of African American or Black Caribbean heritage;
- RMHC/HACER** - applicant must have at least one parent of Hispanic heritage;
- RMHC Scholars** - ALL students may apply regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender, disability or national origin.

DEADLINE JANUARY 21, 2010



SUNY Statewide Student Financial Aid Days
Saturday, January 23rd or
Saturday, February 27th, 2010

Applying for financial aid? Let the financial aid professionals at SUNY campuses make it easier for you. **SUNY's Statewide Student Financial Aid Day** is offered as a service to all prospective college students and their families and is designed to answer questions and provide assistance regarding the financial aid application, types of aid available and the award process.

Hands-on assistance from SUNY financial aid professionals in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is required for all financial aid, including New York State assistance.

Hosted by the Metropolitan Recruitment Center
SUNY State College of Optometry
33 West 42nd St. - New York, NY

Register online at www.suny.edu/studentevents
or call 212-818-1204

*Once you register, additional materials will be sent to you

Best of all it's FREE!!! Don't wait - register today!

Do You Need to Complete the CSS Profile?

Check the participating college and university list at

<http://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp>

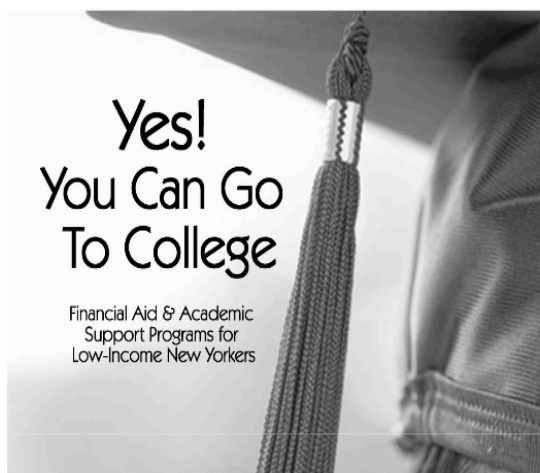
Many private colleges REQUIRE prospective students to complete this online financial aid form **IN ADDITION to the FAFSA.**

Check the deadlines TODAY, as some colleges require this form to be submitted **before February 1st.**

FINANCIAL AID

- **Apply for your PIN numbers online**
- **Complete the FAFSA form online**
- **Complete the CSS Profile online**
(if your college requires it)
- **Continue to apply for SCHOLARSHIPS!!!**

Don't Forget!!!



A great resource about FINANCIAL AID & ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMS for Low-Income New Yorkers

Check out this AMAZING GUIDE at:

<http://www.lizkrueger.com/opportunityguide.pdf>

Don't miss out on GREAT INFORMATION!!!

JFK Profile in Courage Award

The annual *John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Essay Contest* invites high school students from across the nation to write an original essay about an elected official who has demonstrated political courage. The contest is a companion program of the **Profile in Courage Award**, named for President Kennedy's 1957 Pulitzer Prize-winning book, **Profiles in Courage**, which recounts the stories of eight senators, the obstacles they faced, and the special valor they demonstrated despite the risks.

Winning essayists will receive awards totaling up to \$13,500. The first-place winner will be invited to accept the award at the Profile in Courage Award Ceremony hosted by Caroline Kennedy at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston. To encourage student leadership and civic engagement, the nominating teacher of the first-place winner will receive a John F. Kennedy Public Service Grant for \$500.

For more information, eligibility requirements and to apply online :

<http://www.jfklibrary.org/Education+and+Public+Programs/Profile+in+Courage+Award/Essay+Contest+for+High+School+Students/Contest+Information/>

APPLICATION DEADLINE JANUARY 10, 2010

**Do you I♥ve mathematics?
Do you I♥ve helping people?
Would you like**

4 years of FREE tuition?



TIME 2000, A Math-Teaching Program

To attend Queens College and major in mathematics/minor in education

- with a goal of becoming a mathematics teacher.

Criteria: must have a B average in Math & English classes and a B average overall. All applicants must be recommended by a math teacher. All applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents.

For more information, please contact Dr. Alice Artzt at (718) 997-5377 or
www.qc.cuny.edu/time2000

**Are you a talented musician,
but don't want to major in
music during college?**



Check out SKIDMORE COLLEGE'S

Filene Foundation Music Competition

Students will apply to Skidmore College, a highly competitive liberal arts school.

Winners will receive a \$40,000 scholarship

Students must apply directly to Skidmore College before Jan. 15th. Students must then register on line. CD's or cassettes should be postmarked by January 15th, 2010.

For more information visit:

<http://www.skidmore.edu/academics/music/scholarships/Filene-index.htm>

SCHOLARSHIPS! **Don't forget**
to apply TODAY!

Schools are cracking down on students with ‘senioritis’ (Washington Post)

New high school graduates who think they are finished being judged by colleges and universities should think again. Some are in for a big surprise this summer.

In the admissions offices of schools across the country, officials are poring over second semester senior transcripts in what University of Pennsylvania admissions dean Lee Steson calls the “D scholar search”- the hunt for students who slacked off so much that their grades dropped like a stone, or who dropped tough courses for easy ones.

Thousands will receive a stern letter warning them to shape up for college. Many more will be required to explain the slip in their academic performance. Some could be bounced from an honors program or have their admissions postponed.

And some, who felt secure in their place at a selective college, could be booted before they begin. That message-“We wanted you once, but we don’t anymore”- usually comes in a phone call.

“We do look at the final transcripts,” said Shannon Gundy, associate admissions director at the University of Maryland at College Park, where officials are beginning to review the records of every one of the 4, 125 freshman they schools expects to enroll.

“Our assumption when we offer admission is that they will have the same level of accomplishment throughout the year...It has been necessary in some cases to take action regarding the application,” she said.

Colleges and universities inform students on the application or the acceptance letter that admission is contingent on their performance throughout their senior year, though some seniors admit to closing over that part, or don’t believe it when they do read it.

The warning is an attempt to prevent the situation known as “senior slump” or “senioritis,” which involves 12th- graders taking an early break from schoolwork-and in extreme classes, not showing up for classes. The early decision process, in which students receive acceptance letters before Christmas, could be aggravating the problem, some admissions officers said.

Students said they’re not surprised when a college revokes admissions after a teen gets arrested or suspended from school for such activities as drinking.

Though counselors stress that colleges are also watching grades, many students don’t believe it, said Renee Sasso, 18, who will attend Alfred University in upstate New York.

Opportunity knocks

CENTER FOR STUDENT OPPORTUNITY College Center is an online clearinghouse of college programs and admissions information serving first-generation, low-income, and minority student populations. Learn about these outreach, recruitment, and retention programs and more to find schools promoting a college-bound culture. For more information go to

<http://www.csocollegecenter.org>

Historically Black Colleges & Universities Common Application

<p>Member Institutions</p> <p>Alabama A & M University Alabama State University Benedict College Bennett College Central State University Cheyney University Claflin University Clark Atlanta University Coppin State University Dillard University Edward Waters College Fisk University Florida Memorial University Fort Valley State University Huston-Tillotson University Johnson C. Smith University Kentucky State University</p>	<p>GET EDUcated!</p>  <p>EDU, Inc. COMMON BLACK COLLEGE APPLICATION</p> <p>Apply to all 35 Member Institutions with 1 application for \$35.00 The \$35 application fee can not be waived nor can any fee waiver form be used.</p>	<p>Member Institutions</p> <p>Lincoln University LeMoyne-Owen College Mississippi Valley State Univ. Morris College Morgan State University Norfolk State University Paine College Philander Smith College Savannah State University Saint Augustine's College South Carolina State University Tougaloo College Tuskegee University Virginia State University Virginia Union University Voorhees College Wilberforce University Wiley College</p>
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EDU, Inc. is a service that contracts with Historically Black Colleges and Universities to help their recruitment efforts. Currently, EDU, Inc. represents 34 colleges. Students are able to use one Common Application and apply to all 34 colleges at the same time!!!

**All colleges waive their application fee-
so you only have to pay \$35.00 to apply to ALL 34 colleges.**

Once the application is submitted to EDU, Inc. students will send their test scores, transcripts, recommendations, and essay to all of the colleges they are interested in attending.

Applications are available and should be submitted online at
<http://www.eduinonline.com/eduweb/apply.htm>

CUNY Application Procedures

Register on the FREE CUNY Portal Account.

This will allow you to:

- Apply online for undergraduate admission and check the status of your application**
- Apply for financial aid and scholarships, and check the status of those applications**
- Have a customized CUNY homepage called "My Page"**

*****If you do not have a Social Security Number you can still apply! CUNY will assign you a temporary CUNY ID number. The CUNY ID number is NOT a Social Security Number and should only be used when you reference your CUNY application.**

www.cuny.edu/undergraduate